



MONROE THIS WEEK

March 10, 2017 806 W. Main St., Monroe WA, 98272 Volume 3/Edition 10
Ph-360-794-7400



GREETINGS FROM MAYOR THOMAS

Hello! Thank you for reading my weekly newsletter. I am grateful to serve the Monroe community and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments for "Monroe This Week" or the articles included, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov. Thank you!

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas



Mayor Happenings

SR 522 WSDOT Public Presentation

On Wednesday, March 8, 2017, the City of Monroe hosted a public presentation from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to over 75 people. Attendees were from Index, Gold Bar, Sultan, Duvall, Lake Stevens, Snohomish, Maltby, and unincorporated areas around Monroe. Agencies that were represented included, Snohomish County (Councilmember Sam Low and County Executive's office), City of Gold Bar, Monroe School District, Monroe School Board, Snohomish County Fire District 7, and the City of Monroe. WSDOT Staff delivered a presentation that can be viewed [here](#) and answered questions from the audience for about an hour. The presentation included different concepts for SR 522, the cost amounts, and the process it would take for each concept to take place. WSDOT was receptive to the feedback received. I thank WSDOT staff for the fine work they have done of the corridor sketches and on their presentation. I thank our partners for the progress made for SR 522 including Senator Guy Palumbo (Leg. Dist. 1), the 39th legislative delegation, Snohomish County Executive Somers, Snohomish County Councilmember Sam Low, our City Council, and all our partners who have signed onto support, moved legislation forward in Olympia, and worked on engineering concepts. THANK YOU!! The City will continue to work with our partners and keep the community updated.

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Economic Development District Meeting

I represent Snohomish County's cities on the Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) Economic Development District (EDD) Board. The EDD Board meets quarterly in Seattle to work on economic development issues in the Central Puget Sound Region. The work the EDD Board does can

EVENT HAPPENINGS

03/10	Downtown Monroe Clean-up, Dolloff Key Building, 4-5:30PM
03/11	Coffee with the Mayor, Sharinabeans on Main, 8-9:30AM Monroe School District Job Fair, Monroe High School, 9AM-1PM MHS Sports Medicine Run, Lake Tye, 9AM Adult Dodgeball Tournament, Monroe Boys and Girls Club, 10AM-2PM
03/14	City Council Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting, City Hall, 6PM City Council Regular Business Meeting, City Hall, Council Chambers, 7PM
03/16	Lake Tye Park Playground Equipment Groundbreaking, Lake Tye Park, 4:30PM

Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas

gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Jeff Rasmussen, Mayor Pro Tem

Kirk Scarboro

Patsy Cudaback

Kevin Hanford

Ed Davis

Jim Kamp

Jason Gamble

councilmembers@monroewa.gov

City of Monroe

Year-to-Date Comparisons

Sales Tax Revenues

'16 to 02/28/16: \$791,353

'17 to 02/28/17: \$869,788

UP \$78,434 or 9.91%

Real Estate Excise Tax

'16 to 02/28/16: \$149,811

'17 to 02/28/17: \$150,585

UP \$774 or 0.52%

Lodging Tax Revenues

'16 to 02/28/16: \$9,511

'17 to 02/28/17: \$8,592

Down \$919 or -9.66%

Business License Fees

'16 to 02/28/16: \$8,946

'17 to 02/28/17: \$8,150

DOWN \$796 or -8.90%

Building Permit Revenues

'16 to 02/28/16: \$39,717

'17 to 02/28/17: \$80,735

UP \$41,017 or 103.27%

Planning Fee Revenues

'16 to 02/28/16: \$5,975

'17 to 02/28/17: \$2,325

DOWN \$3,650 or -61.09%

New House Permits

'16 to 02/28/16: 7

'17 to 02/28/17: 11

UP 4 units or 57.14%

Multi-Family Permits (# units)

'16 to 02/28/16: 2

'17 to 02/28/17: 0

DOWN 2 units or -100.0%

Building Division Inspections

'16 to 02/28/16: 266

'17 to 02/28/17: 473

UP 207 or 77.82%

influence policies and budgetary decisions that can impact Monroe. These include improvements to our transportation network, including SR-522, SR-203, and US2.

On March 8, 2017, I attended the quarterly EDD Board meeting. PSRC staff presented a draft Economic Development Strategy, which includes high level goals to support and expand the region's economy and keep our region competitive in the global economy. The strategy covers areas from labor force development (education, training, etc.), to quality of life (environment, access to recreation and entertainment, housing affordability, etc.), to transportation, to promoting a variety of the Central Puget Sound's economic sectors. This strategy is revised about every 7 – 8 years.

In reviewing the draft of this document, I noted that it focused new growth (including both residences and businesses) in the "urban centers." At the PSRC, "urban centers" refers more to the metropolitan cities along the I-5 and I-405 corridors between Everett and Tacoma. The strategy as drafted would tend to drive public investments into these areas ahead of other urban areas and cities, such as Monroe. I expressed my concern about this and requested the strategy to be revised to include both the "metropolitan cities" and "non-metropolitan cities," like Monroe.

Additionally, while the draft covered issues related to housing affordability, the draft did not identify issues related to and contributing to homelessness. I requested that the strategy be revised to identify homelessness and issues contributing to homelessness as a concern and address those issues as they relate to public safety, housing, quality of life, and economic development. The PSRC will make both these revisions before the draft is released for public comment which will be towards the second half of March.

Extra Hospital Signs Coming

At the request of Evergreen Heath Monroe Commissioner Tony Balk, City staff have reviewed the signage in Monroe providing direction to the hospital. It has been determined that easy direction to the hospital would be improved by the posting of additional directional signs. The City will be posting 7 new directional signs on City streets. In addition we will be requesting that the Washington State Department of Transportation post 2 additional signs on SR 2. Keep a look out for the new hospital signs popping up around town.

Also, the City was requested to place "bicycle caution" signs at several strategic locations around town. We will be putting up 7 of these signs up and they will be installed over the next few weeks.

COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

For the Tuesday, March 14, 2017, City Council Meeting, upcoming agenda items include a presentation for Relay For Life, a discussion of Term Limits, and ordinance updates.

EVENT HAPPENINGS

Coffee with the Mayor

Coffee with the Mayor this Saturday! Mayor Thomas will be at Sharinabeen's on Main, Saturday, March 11, 2017 from 8-9:30 a.m. Bring your questions, comments, and concerns and have a chat over coffee! See you there!

Appointment Openings

Planning Commissioner

Salary Commissioner

Ethics Boardmember (3)

www.monroewa.gov/vacancies

Job Openings

Engineering Administrative

Specialist

Parks Seasonal

Parks Maintenance Worker II

Lateral Police Officer

www.monroewa.gov/jobs

Lake Tye Park Playground Equipment Groundbreaking!

You are cordially invited to attend the groundbreaking for new playground equipment at Lake Tye Park. Below you will find the details.

- Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017
- Time: 4:30pm
- Location: Lake Tye Park, 14964 Fryelands Blvd, Monroe, WA 98272

Please join us as we break ground for a new and improved playground for all children. Your attendance is appreciated.

Monroe School District Job Fair

The Monroe School District is hosting its first event Job Fair to reach a wide audience of potential employees to work as teachers, substitute teachers, classified staff, and bus drivers. Come out to Monroe High School on March 11, 2017 to learn more about the opportunities the Monroe School District has. The job fair runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



East County Spring Job Fair

On Thursday, March 30, 2017, the East County Spring Job Fair will be held at the Monroe Boys and Girls Club.

The job fair will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring your resume, dress the part, and come talk to over 50 employers who are offering part-time and full-time positions. For more information, click [here](http://www.eastsnohomishjob.com)!